

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This is a response to the Office Action. The allowability of claims 21, 30 and 24-26 is noted. Claim 17 has been amended to include therein the elements of all of claims 18, 19 and 21, whereby claim 17 is now claim 21 in independent form. Claim 24 has been rewritten in independent form including the previously amended version of claim 17 and claim 23. Claim 30 has also been rewritten in independent form. In view of the indication of allowable subject matter, with the amendments made herein, all of the claims remaining in the application should be allowable.

Claims were objected to and also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112. The claims have been amended to deal with the objection and rejection. The Examiner's suggestions have been adopted. However, as to what had been claim 18, the spaces defined in at least the forward frame which is between the rear frame and the engine of the vehicle.

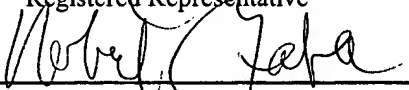
Claims have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103. In view of the amendment of the claims and acceptance of the allowable claims, the rejection of the claims has been rendered moot and there is no further comment on these.

In view of the amendments to the application and the foregoing remarks, allowance of remaining claims 17, 20, 22-26, 28 and 30-33 is requested.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on June 3, 2004:

Robert C. Faber

Name of applicant, assignee or
Registered Representative

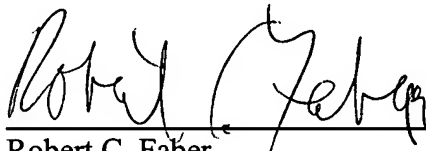


Signature

June 3, 2004

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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